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ED 7201 – Research I  
Professor O’Connor-Petruso  
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Wiki Assignment # 3

Title:

Classroom Management: Will establishing procedures and utilizing actionable techniques ensure academic success in your classroom?

Statement of Problem:

Our public schools are failing our students, particularly minority students from low-income backgrounds. As prospective educators, in an urban environment, the educational inequality our students are facing is our greatest challenge. We are prepared and dedicated to working towards closing the achievement gap between low-income students and high-income students and preparing all students to succeed in college. Before we can do this we need to fully understand why our inner-city schools are failing our children, particularly low-income minority students?

Teachers need to consider whether they have eliminated all instructional impediments and distractions in the classroom. It has been argued that establishing classroom procedures/routines and utilizing actionable techniques, such as non-verbal cues and positive framing, is extremely vital to an efficient and academically successfully classroom. Having control of the two will lead to the ultimate instructional time in the classroom. Will making use of every second in the classroom to instruct our students lead our students one step closer to closing the achievement gap and one step closer to going to college? Are students more prone to academic success in a structured classroom environment? This study will examine the progressive ideology that student should be able to govern themselves and the conservative ideology of a structured classroom environment.

Research Hypothesis:

Over a period of 4-6 weeks, Ms. St. Pierre and Ms. William will plan and deliver a series of lessons to a first grade class in two different settings (charter school and public school). For the first half of the study, 2-3 weeks, the teachers will implement a progressive, student-centered classroom environment; where the students are allowed to govern themselves. During the second half of the study the teachers will implement a conservative, teacher-centered classroom environment; where the students have procedures to follow and the teachers utilize actionable techniques to manage the students’ behavior.

The two teachers will assess their students in the form of test and other written work to ascertain which classroom management method yielded the best academic performances. The two teachers will also do a comparative study to determine if their findings were similar.